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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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Echo of Kurnool bus blaze

KSRTC safety audit begins

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation Mysuru depots begin emergency safety assessment of 1,307 buses

KSRTC officials undertaking safety checks of an AC Airavat bus at KSRTC depot in Bannimantap, Mysuru, this morning.

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (BLU&BCT)- In the wake of the recent horrific bus fire in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, that claimed 20 lives after a private sleeper bus travelling from Hyderabad to Bengaluru caught fire after ramming into a bike, the State Government has taken serious cognisance of the tragedy. Authorities have ordered a comprehensive safety audit of all State-run buses, including those run by Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC).

As part of this directive, safety audits have begun across several districts, including Mysuru, with the Transport Department implementing a series of precautionary measures to prevent such incidents.

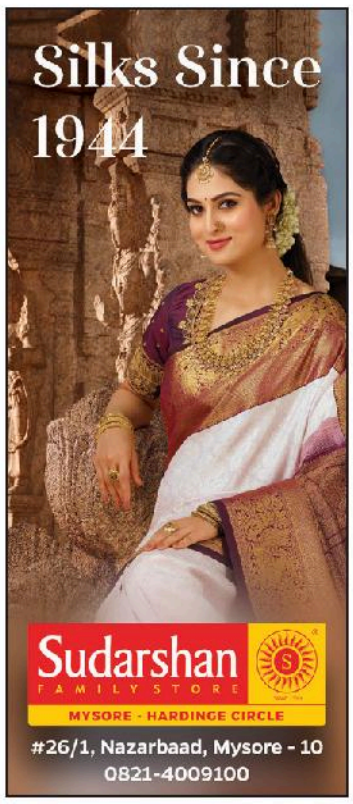
On Saturday, Chief Mechanical Engineer of the State Road Transport Department, Srinivas, held a virtual meeting with Divisional Controllers from Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar, Kodagu and Hassan to review safety protocols and inspection procedures.

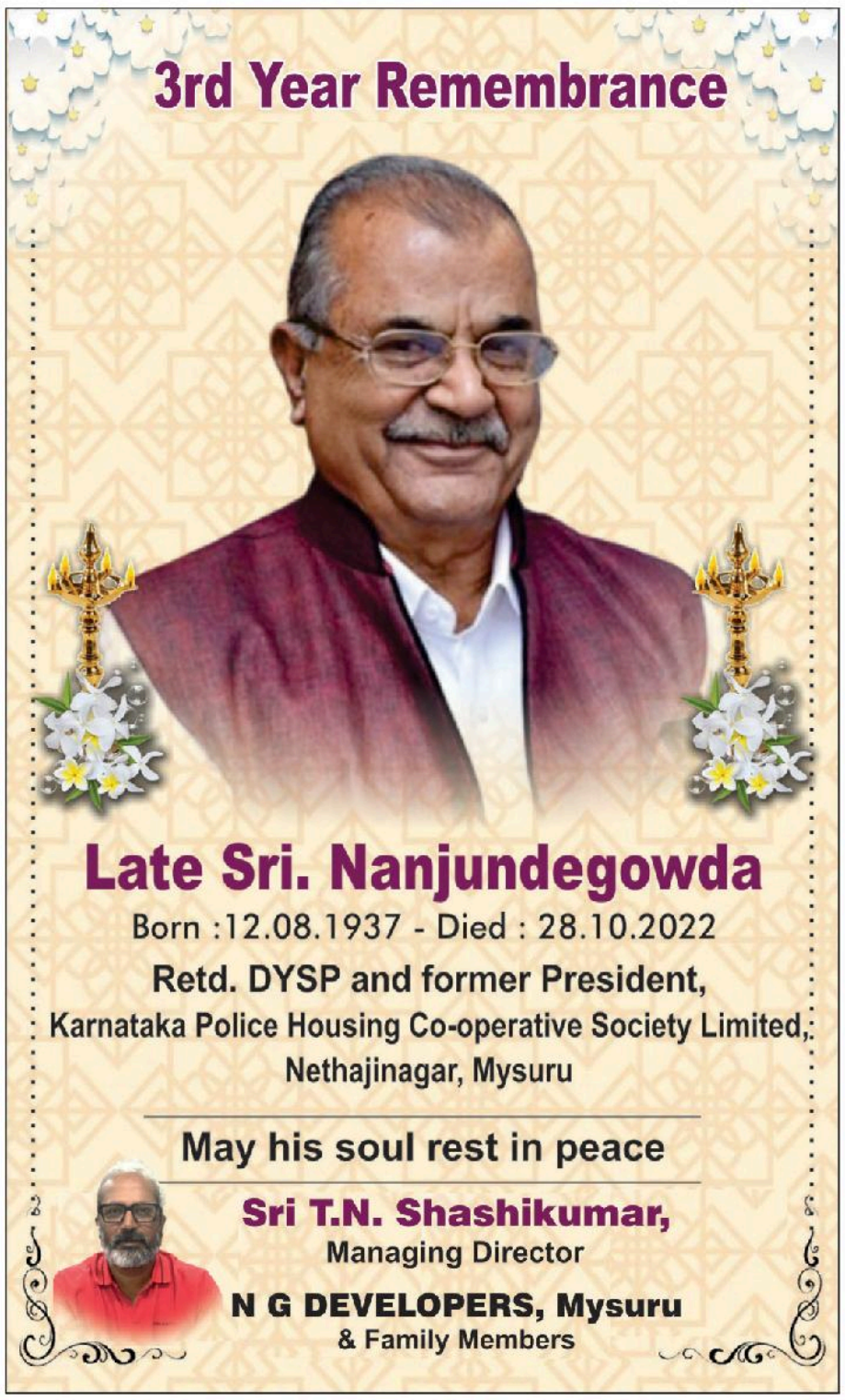
(See KSRTC on page 9)

To Our Readers

*Turn to Page-6 for an exclusive interview with RSS Swayamsevak, Author and India Foundation President Dr. Ram Madhav by **Star of Mysore** Managing Editor Vikram Muthanna.*

—Ed





STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Tuesday 28th October 2025

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

THREE TYPES OF PEOPLE: *Thanneerpalli Sri Krishnan Swamy said in a discourse that people can be divided into three types: Theists, Atheists and Theist-cum-Atheists. Theists believe in the existence of God, rebirth and similar ideas. They think God helps in distress and remain humble in happiness. Atheists do not believe in God and think events happen only by nature. They focus on reality, may believe people should stay as they are and aim for the welfare of society. The last group believes in God but not in the Sastras, Vedantas or other codes. They think the mind alone is enough for one's actions.*

Tiruvalluvar says only those who attain the divine feet of God can be free from sorrows. Worldly desires are impermanent. Yet, our lives are filled with desires, which are the root cause of sorrows. Only the blessings of God are permanent. If people develop the thought that God exists, their worries and sorrows will lessen. The soul, also called life air or atma, is permanent. It dwells in our physical body, which is perishable. Just as the self with a body passes through childhood, youth and old age, it passes into another body after death. A wise man is not deluded by that. The soul acts according to the deeds of previous births. The physical body contains Sattva, Rajas and Tamo gunas in different amounts for each person. This is why people find it hard to understand God's attributes.

Nammazhwar says it is hard to understand the divinity of God, who is Omniscient and Omnipresent. God is the one who guides us all. Our deeds are obstacles to reaching Him. Lord Krishna advises us to surrender at His feet and leave everything. He promises to free us from all bonds. —*In The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Man digs up 2.71-carat diamond

Paoli: An Indiana man visiting Crater of Diamonds State Park in Arkansas spotted something shiny on his shovel and confirmed it was a 2.71-carat white diamond.

Dewy White, a resident of Paoli said he and his wife spent two days at Crater of Diamonds State Park at the start of their long road trip and they enjoyed their time so much they decided to stop again on their way home.

White said he knew the object he unearthed was something different from the quartz he had been encountering before it even hit his screen. The glittering gem on his shovel turned out to be a pea-sized white diamond weighing 2.71 carats.

"It looked like a metal piece of glass. The minute I saw it in my shovel, I knew," he said.

Man sets fire to his car for insurance!

Rio: A Brazilian motorist had the misfortune of being caught on camera lighting up his Porsche sports car so he could cash the insurance policy.

On Oct. 5, the Parana Civil Police was contacted by a man who claimed to have been stopped in traffic by armed men and stuffed in the trunk of his Porsche 911 Carrera before being driven to a rural area in Lapa and being set on fire. He claimed to have been rescued by passers-by, but had suffered minor burns. He told Police he didn't know his assailants, so Police launched an investigation that revealed some peculiar details. The victim appeared to have made up the story because nearby CCTV showed the man setting fire himself.

It has been speculated that the owner had tried to cash the insurance policy on it, because selling the vehicle would have been difficult due to the outstanding tax debt.

HEALTH CAPSULE

With fast, appropriate care the brain can reorganize itself and recover lost functions.

By Dr. Maqsood Ahmed A.R. - Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon (Cerebrovascular and Endovascular Surgery) - Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Distribution of artificial limbs: Calling needy persons

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (GA&DM)- The measurement taking exercise of specially abled citizens for distribution of artificial limbs under the joint aegis of Lions International, Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL), Ashray Seva Sansthan and Jain Milan Charitable Trust, will be held at Samata Bhavan in Nazarbad on Nov. 2.

Announcing this at a press meet here on Sunday, Lions International Secretary Hemanth Kumar Bhansali said that prosthetics equipment are being distributed to beneficiaries since 1991. This year, it has been decided to distribute them to 200 beneficiaries, for which the measurement taking exercise will be held from 8 am to 6 pm on Nov. 2. The needy disabled persons have to bring their Aadhaar card, a full body photograph and the disability certificate issued by doctors, he said. If not, the doctors will issue disability certificate at the spot after examination.

Registration has already begun in Mysuru, Nanjangud, Hubba-Ili-Dharwad and other parts of the State, Bhansali said adding that distribution of artificial limbs will take place within 45 days of taking measurement.

Mahaveerchand Bhansali, Gold Suresh, S. Pramila, M.M. Ramesh and Rajashekar were present at the press meet. For details, contact Mob: 93421-88160 or 98452-84727 or 98861-66243.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **124.80 feet**	Today's level **2,283.82 feet**	Today's level **2,858.13 feet**
Last year's level **124.80 feet**	Last year's level **2,283.61 feet**	Last year's level **2,856.30 feet**
Yesterday's level **124.80 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,283.92 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,858.28 feet**
Today's Inflow **6,392 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **1,278 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **840 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **6,135 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,325 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,400 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *The earliest records of the Pug come from China, where Pugs were pets in Tibetan Buddhist monasteries. We know that Pugs have existed since at least 400 B.C., making them one of the oldest dog breeds.*
- *Pugs have wrinkled faces because Chinese breeders purposely bred them that way. They actually aimed to create a pattern of wrinkles on the dogs' foreheads, which resembled the Chinese character for "prince."*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A: Why there is hell of noise in the house?
B: All are quarrelling.
A: But the house name is Shanti Nivas.
B: What's there in a name?!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 88.31
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 117.97
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 24.04
1 Euro	= Rs. 102.98

VOICE OF THE READER

Zoo vermicompost: Why not retail sale?

Sir,

The write-up on the vermicompost (earthworm-based) venture by Mysuru Zoo was quite informative (*SOM* dated Oct. 24, 'Poop Fortune'). Thank you for the detailed coverage.

It appears that the Zoo authorities are currently focusing on distributing the product to bulk customers such as farmlands, plantations and orchards.

However, they should also consider catering to the growing demand from retail customers — households, kitchen gardeners and hobby florists. There is significant marketing potential in this sector as well.

In this regard, the Zoo's marketing team could introduce smaller compost packs of 10 kg, 20 kg and 40 kg. Setting up a sales counter near the existing ticket booth could help sell these packs like hot cakes across the counter.

Retail sales have another advantage — many Zoo visitors are tourists from neighbouring States like Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Such visitors might prefer to purchase smaller packs that are easier to carry.

This could also help spread the message of Mysuru Zoo's eco-friendly vermicompost to far-off places, potentially increasing demand for future bulk orders. It is hoped that the Zoo authorities will consider this suggestion seriously.

—D.V. Mohana Prakash
Mysuru
24.10.2025

1-month Residential Youth Employability Training

Kaushalya Workshop to select candidates

Mysuru, Oct. 28- Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement (SVYM) and Infosys Foundation will be jointly organising *Gen-Next Kausalyan Programme* — a free 1-month residential youth employability training designed to boost career through essential non-technical soft skills — in the month of November.

This initiative aims to create confident, capable and committed professionals who embody 4Cs — Character, Conviction, Competence, Capacity. Those with a qualification of 12th Pass/ UG/PG, who are in the age group of 18 to 29 years, can apply.

Candidates will be selected through a Kaushalya Workshop to be held from Oct. 29 to 31 between 9.30 am to 4.30 pm at Vivekananda Institute for Leadership Development (V-LEAD), CA-2, KIADB Industrial Area, Ring Road, Hebbal, Mysuru.

For registration, log on to: ***https://forms.gle/NJFPrSQT-VBwRpNgd6*** For more details, contact Mob: 97390-17311.

Dance Contest: Calling State Government Employees

Mysuru, Oct. 28- As part of Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations, Karnataka State Government Employees Association, Cubbon Park, Bengaluru, has organised a State-level Folk/ Kannada Song Dance (group) Competition at the Central Association premises in Bengaluru on Nov. 8.

State Government permanent employees may take part in the competition. For registration, log on to ***https://forms.gle/8pR3m5nXowwQzccs9***

Last date to register is Nov. 2 (by 5 pm). The first prize winner will be awarded Rs. 1,00,000, second prize Rs. 75,000, third prize Rs. 50,000 and consolation prize Rs. 20,000.

The venue of the competition will be announced by the Central Association after the registration deadline, according to Dr. C.B. Arunkumar, District President, Karnataka State Government Employees Association.

Passing out parade

Mysuru, Oct. 28- The passing out parade of 9th batch of Women Civil Police Constables will be held at Parade Grounds of the Police Training School in Jyothinagar on Oct. 31 at 8 am.

ADGP (Training) Alok Kumar will be the chief guest.

He will receive the Guard of Honour and also give away prizes to outstanding trainees.

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GRAAM's Panchayat to Parliament Expedition...

Youth for Governance Fellows from Mysuru to visit Parliament of India

Krishnaraja MLA T.S. Srivatsa flagging off the bus carrying the Youth for Governance Fellows at Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple in city this morning on their Governance Expedition to the Parliament of India, New Delhi.

Mysuru, Oct. 28- Grassroots Research and Advocacy Movement (GRAAM), Mysuru, in collaboration with the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), Germany, continues its mission of nurturing informed, responsible, and civic-minded youth through the **Youth for Governance Fellowship (Y4G).** Now in its fourth successful year, the Fellowship provides a structured learning platform for young leaders to understand governance systems, public policy and democratic processes in India.

As part of this year's learning journey themed "From Panchayat to Parliament," a team of 26 Youth for Governance Fellows from Mysuru have embarked on an exposure visit to Delhi from today (Oct. 28) to Oct.31. This national-level exposure aims to strengthen their understanding of the Indian governance ecosystem and deepen their appreciation for democratic institutions. The Fellows will have the rare opportunity to visit and engage with several key national institutions, including:

- Parliament of India: Guided exposure to the highest democratic institution.
- Rashtrapati Bhavan: Understanding the role and functioning of the President's Secretariat.
- NITI Aayog: Interaction with officials to explore India's policy-making and development frameworks.
- Capacity Building Commission: Learning about government transformation and administrative reforms.
- Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation (SPMRF): Dialogue with policy thinkers and governance experts.

In addition, they will engage in insightful interactions with prominent leaders such as H.D. Kumaraswamy, V. Somanna, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe and Binay Singh, gaining first-hand perspectives on leadership, governance and public policy.

This exposure visit serves as culmination of Governance Expedition undertaken by the Youth for Governance Fellows from Panchayat to Parliament where they have already interacted with Gram Panchayats, Zilla Panchayats and City Corporations across Karnataka. By connecting the grassroots governance experience with national-level institutions, the programme offers a holistic view of India's democratic fabric, says a press release from Dr. R. Basavaraju, Executive Director, GRAAM.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the General public that my client is intending to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule Property by executing an Absolute Sale Deed with its owner's Smt. Prathima A.G., W/o. Sri. Indra S., aged about 34 years, residing at # 286, 'Kalabhyraweshwara Nilaya, 2nd Stage, Gayathripuram, Mysuru. If any person/s or body of persons, including their family members and/or general public claiming to have any right, title, interest or claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, or person/s having or claiming to having and/or holding Power of Attorney, etc., over the Schedule Property are hereby directed to contact our office during the working hours, with the documentary proof/s in original within 07 (Seven) days from the date of this publication. Failing which it will be presumed by our client that (a) there are no claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, etc., (b) if any, the same is/are deemed to have been waived and thus our client will be obliged to proceed with the Execution and Registration of the Absolute Sale Deed, as if there are no valid claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, etc., subsisting against the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing survey number 21/5 measuring 0.38.00.00 (Thirty-Eight Gunta), situated at Gujjegowdanapura Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, and bounded on the - East by: Survey No: 21/4 ; West by: La.Sa. No: 22 ; North by: La.Sa.No: 20 ; South by: Water Stream & Village Boundary.

Sd/- Chandrashekar H.N.
Advocate, KAR 427/2001, Chambers: 390/E, 1st Floor, 4th Main, Maruthi Temple Road, Kuvempunagar, Mysuru-570023. Mob: 9740399992
Date: 27-10-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the General public that my client is intending to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule Property by executing an Absolute Sale Deed with its owner's Sri. Ravi R., S/o. Sri. Ramegowda, aged about 46 years, residing at #150, CFTRI Layout, 3rd Main Road, 4th Cross, Bogadi 2nd Stage, Mysuru. If any person/s or body of persons, including their family members and/or general public claiming to have any right, title, interest or claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, or person/s having or claiming to having and/or holding Power of Attorney, etc., over the Schedule Property are hereby directed to contact our office during the working hours, with the documentary proof/s in original within 07 (Seven) days from the date of this publication. Failing which it will be presumed by our client that (a) there are no claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, etc., (b) if any, the same is/are deemed to have been waived and thus our client will be obliged to proceed with the Execution and Registration of the Absolute Sale Deed, as if there are no valid claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, etc., subsisting against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE-PROPERTY

Item - 1 All the piece and parcel of the property bearing survey number 21/2 measuring 0.38.00.00 (Thirty-Eight Gunta), situated at Gujjegowdanapura Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, and bounded on the -East by: Survey No: 21/1; West by: Survey No: 21/3; North by : La.Sa. No: 20; South by : La. Sa No: 94, Water Stream & Village Boundary

Item-2 All the piece and parcel of the property bearing survey number 21/3 measuring 0.38.00.00 (thirty-Eight Gunta), situated at Gujjegowdanapura Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, and bounded on the-East by: Survey No:21/2 ; Wesr by: Survey 21/4; North by : La. Sa No:20; South by : Water Stream & Village Boundary

Sd/- Chandrashekar H.N.
Advocate, KAR 427/2001,Chambers: 390/E, 1st Floor, 4th Main, Maruthi Temple Road, Kuvempunagar, Mysuru-570023.
Date : 27.10.2025 Mob: 9740399992

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the General public that my client is intending to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule Property by executing an Absolute Sale Deed with its owner's Sri. Indra S., S/o Sri. Sannegowda, aged about 46 years, residing at # 286, 2nd Stage, Gayathripuram, Mysuru. If any person/s or body of persons, including their family members and/or general public claiming to have any right, title, interest or claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, or person/s having or claiming to having and/or holding Power of Attorney, etc., over the Schedule Property are hereby directed to contact our office during the working hours, with the documentary proof/s in original within 07 (Seven) days from the date of this publication. Failing which it will be presumed by our client that (a) there are no claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, etc., (b) if any, the same is/are deemed to have been waived and thus our client will be obliged to proceed with the Execution and Registration of the Absolute Sale Deed, as if there are no valid claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, etc., subsisting against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing survey number 21/4 measuring 0.39.00.00 (Thirty-Nine Gunta), situated at Gujjegowdanapura Village, Jayapura Hobli, Mysuru Taluk, and bounded on the - East by: Survey No: 21/3 ; West by: Survey No: 21/5 ; North by: La.Sa.No: 20 ; South by: Water Stream & Village Boundary.

Sd/- Chandrashekar H.N.
Advocate, KAR 427/2001, Chambers: 390/E, 1st Floor, 4th Main, Maruthi Temple Road, Kuvempunagar, Mysuru-570023. Mob: 9740399992
Date: 27-10-2025

NEWS BRIEFS

Health Talk for senior citizens

As part of monthly series of Health Talk, the Elder Citizens Council has organised a lecture programme on 'Food & Nutrition, Control of Diabetes by Diet' at Saraswathi Samudaya Bhavana in the Council premises, Jayalakshmipuram, Mysuru, on Nov. 3 at 5 pm, exclusively for senior citizens. Dr. Nandinimurthy, Dietician, formerly from VLCC, Nutrition Expert, Master in Colour Therapy, Magnet Therapy, Yoga, Mudra, Acupressure and Secretary, MRIT, will deliver the talk. Dr. H.M. Nagaraju, President of the Council, will preside. For details, contact Mob: 99804-12406.

Office-bearers

The following have been elected as the office-bearers of Brahmana Dharma Sahaya Sabha, located on Thyagaraja Road in city, for the period 2025-28: President - N. Srinivas; Vice-President - A.R. Venkatesh; Secretary - K.G. Satish; Joint Secretary - S.K. Jagadish and Directors - S.V. Nagendra, H.S. Prashanth Tatachar, L. Narasimha Prasad, M.A. Hemalatha, B.S. Srinath, H.S. Nagaraj, H.N. Bindumadhava, R.S. Satyanarayana, P.M. Natesh, M.V. Srinivas and K.S. Suresh.

Calling devotees

The Annual Suttur Jatra will be held at Suttur in Nanjangud taluk from Jan. 15 to 20, 2026, during which several pujas & rituals will take place. Jatra Mahotsava Samiti has called upon devotees interested in sponsoring pujas, rituals & other related services during the Jatra to visit the office of the Jatra Mahotsava Samiti at Suttur or at JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Dr. Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Circle, Mysuru. For details, call Suttur Mutt on Ph: 08221-232223 or 232033 or 94486-09062 or JSS Mahavidyapeetha on Ph: 0821-2548212-122.

Free cancer clinic

A free cancer detection clinic has been organised at Preethi Cancer Centre in Lakshmipuram on Oct. 30 from 10 am to 8 pm. For details, contact Ph: 0821-4259259.

'Kannada Ratna'

City-based writer and organiser **Gayatri Sundaresh** has been awarded the State-level 'Kannada Ratna' Award, presented by the Jeeshampa Sahitya Vedike in Mandya. This year's award is being given in consideration of her literary, educational and social services. She will receive the award at the awards ceremony of Kannada Akshara Jatra to be held at Jeeshampa Vedike on Nov. 2.

'Doll makers badly hurt due to high tariffs'

Prize-winners of Dasara Doll Show-2025

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (PM&DM)- "Due to levy of 100 percent tariffs on export parcels valued at over Rs. 20,000, we are unable to export our unique Indian dolls to western countries such as America and Canada," said R.G. Singh of Ramsons Bombe Mane.

He was speaking at the Dasara Doll Show-2025 prize distribution ceremony organised jointly by Bharat Vikas Parishad Bharadwaja Shakha, Mysuru and Ramsons Bombe Mane at Mysuru Bombe Rangamandira of Ramsons Handicrafts Emporium in Ittigegud here recently.

Pointing out that Government policies are having an adverse effect on exports because of very high tariffs, R.G. Singh said "We are exporting 100 parcels of dolls to Canada and America every year. However, due to 100 percent tariffs this year, we are unable to send even a single parcel and this is because of 100 percent tariff. At this rate, one can imagine the effect that high tariffs will make on export of bigger products and execution of projects."

Stating that their suppliers in Chennai and Pondicherry too expressed their inability to export, he said that this has resulted in rise of prices of domestic dolls, which has become unaffordable for many buyers. Maintaining that many indigenous products of Mysuru are being copied, he said that though it is said that the origins of doll arrangement lied in the erstwhile Vijayanagar empire, many books on Dasara have made no mention about this.

Prizes were distributed to the winners of the Dasara Doll Show.

Junior category: First prize - Vinay Govindaraj, second prize - Navya Yoganand, third prize - Uma Nanjundaiah and consolation prize - Pooja Dinesh.

Mid-level category: First - Akshay Balaji, second - Suma Shivaprasad, third - Kalpana Urs and consolation - Usha Nagaraj.

Senior category: First - Ramamani Gurudatta, second - Geetha Raghuram, third - Manjula Murthy and consolation prize - Padmashri Ravishankar.

Mass category: First - Geetha Srihari, second - Sridevi Srivatsa, third - Hemalatha Kumaraswamy and consolation prize - Rajeshwari Ganeshan.

Organisations category: First - Cambridge School, Kanakadasanagar, second - DAV Public School and third - Arivina Mane Mahila Balaga.

Suma Krishna and Shyamala Prasanna were presented a special prize for bonsai plant culture.

Bharat Vikas Parishad Mysuru President Dr. B.N. Ranganatha Rao, Regional President R. Nagabushan and former President Jagadish were present.

'AI drives modern innovations'

Mysuru, Oct. 28- Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, Executive Secretary, JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru, stated that in this rapidly evolving century, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is driving modern innovations.

Speaking at the inauguration of the workshop on 'Artificial Intelligence Applications - Sharing the Future with AI' at JSS College for Women, Saraswathipuram, here recently, he emphasised that in this digital era, AI will play a predominant role. He further stated that AI offers both opportunities and risks, urging users to adopt a sensible approach.

The chief guest, Dr. S. Manjunath, Principal Engineer at Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co. Ltd., World Trade Centre, Bengaluru, stated that AI is no longer just a technology but a capability and those capable of using AI will thrive. He noted that AI has opened doors to new opportunities, urging everyone to adapt to this transformative change.

Dr. C.G. Betsurmath, Executive Secretary, JSS Mahavidyapeetha, Mysuru, addressing the gathering during the inauguration of the workshop on 'AI Applications' at JSS College for Women in Saraswathipuram, Mysuru, recently as others look on.

In his presidential address, Dr. D.S. Guru, Senior Professor, Department of Studies in Computer Science, University of Mysore, emphasised the integration of AI with biotechnology and nanotechnology.

He noted that AI enables us to effectively utilise the vast amount of available data. He further said that AI is not here to replace humans but to complement our capabilities.

Dr. Rechanna, Principal and H.G. Pradeep, IQAC Coordinator and Head, Department of Computer Science, were present along with staff and students.

The inaugural session was followed by three technical sessions and 20 paper presentations.

The first technical session, led by Dr. D.S. Guru, Senior Professor, DoS in Computer Science, University of Mysore, focused on "The AI in Real Time: Opportunities and Challenges." The second technical session was conducted by Dr. S. Manjunath, Principal Engineer, Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co. Ltd., World Trade Centre, Bengaluru, on "AI for Language Processing."

The final technical session was delivered by Dr. Anitha Raghavendra, Senior Data Scientist, Aashaya Designs and Solutions, Mysuru, on "AI in Agriculture."

Keerthana and group rendered the invocation. P.S. Sahana, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, welcomed. R.V. Nandini, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, proposed the vote of thanks. S.D. Rakshitha, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, compered.

Two tiger attacks spur State to form wildlife conflict task force

Centralised command centre, drones and thermal cameras to aid wildlife monitoring

Bandipur, Oct. 28 (MTY & BCT)- In a decisive move to curb rising instances of human-wildlife conflict, Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre has directed the formation of a State-level Task Force comprising local elected representatives, NGOs and environmental experts.

The initiative aims to ensure a coordinated response to wildlife-related incidents while fostering peaceful coexistence between forest-fringe communities and wild animals.

Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre addressing a review meeting at office of the Bandipur Tiger Reserve Director yesterday as other dignitaries and forest officials look on.

The announcement came during a review meeting held last evening at the office of the Bandipur Tiger Reserve Director, attended by MLAs from H.D. Kote and Gundlupet along with senior Forest Department officials. The discussions primarily focused on two recent tiger attack deaths reported in Saragur taluk.

Minister Khandre said the proposed Task Force would not only manage conflict situations but also work to educate villagers on living harmoniously alongside wildlife.

Promoting empathy, understanding

He stressed the need for awareness campaigns highlighting precautionary measures and responsible behaviour in forest-fringe areas. As part of its outreach, the Task Force will visit schools near forests to sensitise students on wildlife conservation and promote empathy and understanding.

He added that the Task Force will serve as a vital bridge between forest officials and local communities, fostering mutual trust and cooperation in addressing wildlife challenges.

On operational measures, the Minister directed that all wildlife capture operations involving elephants, tigers or leopards strictly follow Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Forest personnel have been instructed to maintain cordial relations with villagers and alert them via loudspeakers if wild animals stray into human habitats. Timely updates should also be shared on social media platforms to ensure public safety.

Centralised command centre

To bolster surveillance and coordination, Khandre announced the establishment of a centralised command centre equipped with thermal cameras, drones and modern communication tools.

This centre will issue instant WhatsApp alerts whenever wild animals are spotted near villages, agricultural fields or residential zones. Directions have already been issued to operationalise the system and ensure swift emergency responses.

Recognising the need for stronger on-ground vigilance, the Minister called for intensified patrolling to prevent harm to both humans and wildlife and to safeguard crops from damage. However, he acknowledged a shortage of personnel within the department and directed officials to expedite recruitment. Frontline staff may also be appointed on a contract basis, wherever required.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) has been tasked with submitting a detailed report within five days outlining measures to prevent elephants and tigers from straying beyond forest limits. Proposed solutions include tentacle fencing, solar-powered fencing, elephant trenches and chain-link fencing along railway barricades.

The meeting was attended by MLAs Anil Chikkamadu and H.M. Ganesh Prasad, PCCF P.C. Ray, Principal Secretary Manoj Kumar, APCCF Manoj Rajan, Chamarajanagar DC Shilpa Nag, S.P. B.T. Kavitha, Tiger Project Director Dr. P. Ramesh Kumar, Bandipur Tiger Reserve Director S. Prabhakaran and other senior officials.

Restricting safari activities

Earlier in the day, Minister Khandre told reporters that representatives from four farmers' associations had met him on his way from Mysuru to Bandipur.

They expressed concern that safari activities were pushing wild animals out of forest areas and demanded that safaris be temporarily halted. The Minister assured them that a meeting will be convened to deliberate on the issue. Farmers' associations also voiced grievances over delays in permission to harvest and transport teak and sandalwood trees grown on private lands. The Minister directed Forest officials to respond promptly to such complaints.

Two-tier check to keep single-use plastics out of forest zones

Bandipur, Oct. 28 (MTY & BCT)- To curb the entry of single-use plastics into forest zones, Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre has launched a two-tier vehicle screening system along routes leading to protected areas such as Bandipur and Nagarahole.

Under the system's first tier, travellers are urged to voluntarily discard single-use plastic items into designated bins before entering the forest. In the second, forest personnel will inspect vehicles and penalties will be imposed if plastic materials are found. Minister Khandre warned that discarded plastics pose a serious threat to wildlife, as animals often ingest them, leading to illness or death.

Forest staff already collect plastic waste daily along forest roads, often risking encounters with wild animals. He expressed confidence that the new system will effectively curb plastic pollution while protecting both wildlife and personnel.

Khandre visits Green Mysuru Nursery

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (PM&DM)- Minister for Forest, Environment and Ecology Eshwar Khandre visited 'Green Mysuru Nursery' established by former MUDA Chairman and Congress leader H.V. Rajeev on Nanjangud road here yesterday.

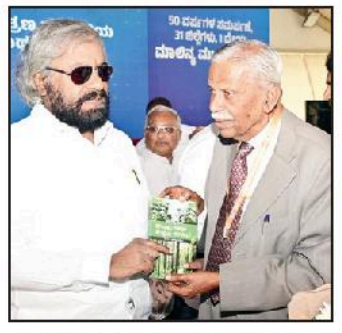
Speaking on the occasion Khandre said that the nursery has been playing a crucial role for protecting our environment by distributing more than a lakh tree saplings. Pointing out it is significant to note that the saplings are distributed for free even beyond Mysuru district, he stressed on the need for saving our nature for future generations.

Recalling that he taken part along with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the 'Laksha Vruksha' programme conceptualised by H.V. Rajeev earlier, Khandre maintained that it is important to create awareness amongst our students on the significance of saving our ecology, environment and nature. The H.V. Rajeev Sneha Balaga has been doing it with commitment, he lauded.

Leaders J.P. Nagar Nandish, Shivanagappa, Varuna Mahesh, Prakash, K.V. Mallesh, Virupaksha, Mallesh, Khanavali Nagendra, Rajeev Sneha Balaga office-bearers Shesh Prasad, S. Ranganath, Jayanth, Karigowda, B.G. Keshava, Kamala, Nagesh, Raghu, Nagaraj, Suresh, Krishnappa, Vishwanath, Siddaraju, Chandru, Siddappaji, Vikas Shastri and others were present.

Former Forest officer appeals Minister to give prominence for Forest Horticulture

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (DM)- Retired Forest Department Secretary A.C. Lakshman has appealed Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre to give prominence to Forest Horticulture.



Lakshman who spoke after presenting a copy of senior Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar's book 'Tambaku Bittaki Hebbevu Beledevu' to Khandre, said that promotion of Forest Horticulture will help improve the economic condition of our farmers. Pointing out that the State had a very rich forest wealth during the times of Amogha Varsha, Immadi Pulikeshi, The Gangas, Hoysals, Vijayanagar Rulers and Mysore Wadiyars, he said that if the bureaucracy works with total commitment, then set targets can be achieved and make the State a more prosperous one.

Khandre later told Lakshman to meet him on a convenient date at Bengaluru to discuss the matter in detail.

'Good luck to those who want to ban RSS'

From an electrical engineer from Andhra Pradesh to RSS Swayamsevak to the National General Secretary of BJP (2014 to 2020), it has been a long, interesting journey for Dr. Ram Madhav. He is also a well-known author and is currently serving as the President of the India Foundation, a New Delhi-based think tank.

He recently visited Mysuru to take part in an interactive session titled 'RSS 100 – Centenary Year of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)' organised by Manthana Mysuru and Sri Jana Jagarana Trust, Mysuru.

***Star of Mysore* Managing Editor Vikram Muthanna caught up with Dr. Ram Madhav to know about the 100 years of RSS and what next?** Excerpts...

Star of Mysore ***Managing Editor Vikram Muthanna in conversation with RSS Swayamsevak Dr. Ram Madhav in Mysuru on Saturday.***

> **"We are not against the spirit of secularism; in fact, it is the very character of our society. But secularism, as is practised in our country today, is a pseudo version.**
>
> **It has turned into appeasement of a particular religion or a few religions and rejection of the faith of the majority of people.**
>
> **That kind of pseudo version of secularism is what RSS said is not good for our country, because that goes against the very spirit of this country's ethos."**

Star of Mysore (SOM): The Congress Government in Karnataka is thinking of regulating or even banning RSS activities in public spaces and among its employees. What do you have to say for it?

Ram Madhav: Best of luck to them. I know it is not the Congress Government as a whole. It appears to be an agenda of a few leaders.

Probably, Congress in Karnataka is going through some internal turmoil and the RSS is being used to score certain political points.

But let me clarify one thing. We are not afraid of all these things. We have seen three big bans. I do not have records, but I have heard that when one such proposal came before Indira Gandhi, she told the Congress people that RSS is like a rubber ball; the force with which it is hit on the ground, it'll bounce back with double that force. So don't try to do such things with RSS.

Secondly, there are 30 different judgements in the last 100 years by different Courts. We actually published a book *'Quotes on RSS'* which categorically said, of course, you cannot ban RSS in the first place and also you cannot stop any Government employee from attending its activity.

There is nothing political, nothing against the country in RSS activity. So you cannot impose any restriction on a Government employee from attending RSS activities.

So, let those who think that they can browbeat RSS for their own political ends just keep these judgements in mind.

> **"Probably, Congress in Karnataka is going through some internal turmoil and the RSS is being used to score certain political points... Indira Gandhi told the Congress people that RSS is like a rubber ball; the force with which it is hit on the ground, it'll bounce back with double that force.**

Additionally, if they don't allow us to perform our 'shaka' in a given location, we will relocate to a different spot. This country is so vast and the hearts of our people are big; we have never had any dearth of space for our activities.

SOM: Earlier, you said it is difficult to understand RSS, but very easily misunderstood. I just want to know what we have not understood and what is that we have misunderstood about RSS?

Ram Madhav: Misunderstandings are many and you may want to know the reason for it. One is, of course, a few people in your State continuously propagate negative things about RSS and then there is the wrong presentation of its ideas on Hinduism and Hindutva.

Hindutva is always portrayed as RSS' exclusive ideology. Let me be clear. What is Hindutva for us? If at all we are using that word, the only meaning of it is "Hinduism in practice." But all such words have been misrepresented and misinterpreted to mean we are against some person or a community or a religion which has led to certain misconceptions.

That said I am ready to take 10 percent blame on us also. RSS remained an introvert organisation for many years.

In fact, RSS did not have a *'Prachaar Vibhag'*, the publicity wing until 1990s. RSS began in 1925, but for almost 70 years it did not have its own publicity department. So when people were attacking RSS, we were not responding and hence a negative image was allowed to be formed.

Dr. Subramanian Swamy once said, 'You (RSS) are like a turtle.' If you throw a stone at a turtle, it won't react. It will simply withdraw its limbs under the shell. It will wait for you to get tired of attacking and stop.

Once you stop, it will then spread its limbs from the shell and start crawling again. He (Subramanian Swamy) said, you (RSS) are like that (turtle). You are tolerating these attacks and this reluctance to respond for decades has led to the misunderstanding of RSS.

RSS has now opened up and is proactively engaging with society and as a result, many misconceptions are being put to rest.

SOM: You once said that constitutionally, we are secular, but culturally, we are all Hindus. Can you explain what you mean by that?

Ram Madhav: Many people suggested that we should have the word secular in our preamble. This was in 1949. You know who said that there is no need for it? It was Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

We as a society were always secular. In our own terminology we call it *'Sarva Dharma Samabhava'*, equal respect for all different faiths. So, Dr. Ambedkar said, why do you want to specifically introduce the word which will lead to more confusion? That said, we have to ask, between 1950 and 1976, before they added 'secular,' was India not secular?

We are not against the spirit of secularism; in fact, it is the very character of our society. But secularism, as is practised in our country today, is a pseudo version. It has turned into appeasement of a particular religion or a few religions and rejection of the faith of the majority of people.

That kind of pseudo version of secularism is what RSS said is not good for our country, because that goes against the very spirit of this country's ethos.

Speaking of culture… The Rafale aircraft came last year. The first batch of those five landed at Chandigarh. Defence Minister Rajnath Singhji went to receive them. With him went a pujari. He had five lemons in his hands. He put those lemons under the wheels of the Rafale. Now is it secular or communal? For us, it is a part of our culture. Because we worship everything, we worship a 'yudha viman' (fighter jet) also.

SOM: Speaking on secularism, especially about minorities, they have an inherent fear of the RSS.

Many ask, how would the RSS feel if a Muslim organisation had a large group of men in uniform and white caps and marched holding a 'danda' around the city? Would it not feel intimidating and discomforting?

Ram Madhav: Let me share some interesting facts. In the 1970s, Sanjay Gandhi had this brilliant idea. He said, like how the RSS has their daily *'shakha'* where they do drills and march past, the Congress will also do.

He decided to have 'Congress Shakhas'. The Congress tried for three months, four months. But who has that patience in the Congress party? So it never took off.

The communists also tried to do it in States like Kerala. They asked, *"If you can do it, why can't we do it?"* and they did.

They also had those sticks and other things on their shoulders. They also had a uniform. They also had the march past. They could do it for two years, the third year, nobody turned up.

As long as it is within the realm of rules of the Government, within the realm of the Constitution, all other activities permitted, who are we to say nobody else should do it? But let them try. Not easy, sir.

To create that kind of discipline, to create that kind of training, needs a lot of motivation, not just antipathy for RSS.

Having said that, if somebody wants to do it, do it.

And about the stick, let me tell you. We kept it because we use it in our exercises. And if anybody today comes up and tells me it's a weapon, somebody should laugh at them. Even dogs are not afraid of your sticks anymore.

In many of our route marches we don't use sticks these days. Because, you know, RSS has a uniform and stick is not part of our uniform.

But to make stick into a dangerous thing is silly. We are in the age where all sorts of weapons are found in mohallas and gullies of our cities and stick is a weapon!? That misconception should go.

About the route march, it's a kind of disciplined march we undertake. Many people undertake morning processions, *Prabhat Pheries*. It's something like that.

SOM: You were in charge of J&K; in fact, you were sent from RSS to BJP for this purpose. What was your experience in stitching together a rare PDP-BJP government?

Ram Madhav: I was made in charge of Jammu and Kashmir and I think personally for me it was a great experience, but more importantly a good change in the minds of the people of especially Kashmir Valley.

Jammu has always been largely with the BJP and the Jansangh, but to make people in the Kashmir Valley understand the thought process of the BJP and RSS, we ran a Government for three-and-a-half years. The government helped in convincing people of Kashmir that the image of the BJP or RSS as somebody who is out to destroy all Muslims is totally wrong.

That is one of the major achievements of our participation in Kashmir in the government there and because of that, when we removed Article 370, there was not much opposition in the State.

Kashmiris understood that these people are not our enemies; actually, they want the good of the whole country, and that is why, when Article 370 was removed, the people of Kashmir were willing to see if it would benefit them. They lived under the rule of Article 370 for maybe 65 years. They wanted to see, without Article 370, if life could be better.

SOM: Has it been better?

Ram Madhav: I can tell you today, they all feel that without Article 370, life is much better than with Article 370 in the past. Today, the demand there is, "give us our Statehood back", which is a legitimate demand. It has to get its Statehood back and it will get it.

But today, nobody really asks, give me Article 370 back. Not even in the Kashmir Valley.

SOM: You are a part of a whole global outreach programme. What was the outcome?

Ram Madhav: One of the major endeavours of Prime Minister Modi after he came to power in 2014 was a wider global outreach.

The idea was that India should be introduced to all as a rising civilisational power. In that process, I was also involved in a limited way.

> **"I can tell you today, they all in Kashmir feel that without Article 370, life is much better than with Article 370 in the past.**
>
> **Today, the demand there is, "give us our Statehood back," which is a legitimate demand... But today, nobody really asks, give me Article 370 back. Not even in the Kashmir Valley."**

We tried to connect with political parties which probably have this approach of respect for religion, respect for civilisational values and respect for ancestors. There are parties, like these conservative parties, in different parts of the world.

We also engaged with the Vatican and also with organisations like the Muslim World League. We are connected with them and we continue to work with them.

All this is helping dispel certain misconceptions about us. Secondly, it has also helped them understand India better.

SOM: What is the plan of RSS for the next 100 years?

Ram Madhav: RSS' next 100-year plan is to continue its effort in creating greater unity in our society. But its immediate plan is 'Pancha Parivarthan', five transformations it wants to achieve. RSS is going to focus on them. I will just repeat those five: *Kutumba Prabodhan* (to strengthen our family system), *Pariyavaran* (climate), *Swadeshi* (instilling a sense of pride in selfhood), *Souhardha* (creating greater harmony in society) and *Kartavyabodh* (motivating people to know about social responsibility).

These are five immediate goals, but the larger goal would be to bring greater unity in the country.

In conclusion: Dr. Ram Madhav may be the most approachable and articulate face in this new phase of RSS, but he left many questions unanswered while his answers evoked many more questions.

None-the-less, one must appreciate the fact that while RSS may be perceived as a service organisation with a quiet aggressive streak, RSS is making slow but steady attempt to change that image.

How far it will succeed in bringing about the eradication of deep-rooted caste bias and harmony among all faiths is a challenge which will surely take another 100 years.

But let's hope with their *Kartavyabodh*, they succeed in reminding people about their fundamental duties and in doing so fulfil Dr. Ambedkar's wish — *"I want all people to be Indians first, Indians last and nothing else but Indians."*

— Ed

A rare kind of felicitation

Prof. R. Visweswaran and his wife Usha seen with Dr. Komanduri Sheshadri (extreme right), eminent violinist and retired Professor, Principal of Sri Venkateshwara College of Music & Dance (SVCMD), Tirupati, who felicitated the couple at their residence in Mysuru recently. Picture right shows Members of Raga Rasagnya Sangeetha Sabha, Tirupati, on the occasion.

Mysuru, Oct. 28- "We can see teachers who impart knowledge with all sincerity to their students, but only a rare few treat them as their own children and take care of their well-being with a motherly heart. Prof. R. Visweswaran's heart found no boundary in embracing his disciples and ensuring their needs and progress throughout their life," said Dr. Komanduri Sheshadri, eminent violinist and retired Professor, Principal of Sri Venkateshwara College of Music & Dance (SVCMD), Tirupati, narrating his experience in Mysuru recently.

Dr. Sheshadri was in city to felicitate his guru, the internationally renowned musician, composer and musicologist, Prof. R. Visweswaran, at his residence on behalf of 'Raaga Rasagnya' Music Sabha, Tirupati, with the title 'Nada Rasagnya.'

Dr. Sheshadri was a student of Visweswaran at the University Fine Arts College, Mysuru, in the 1960s.

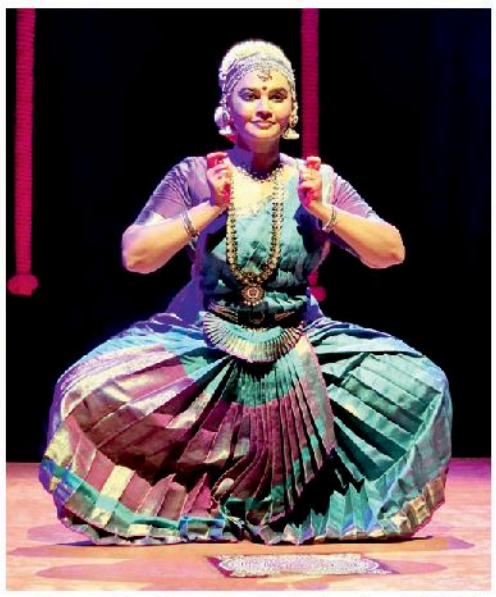
The informal event unfurled with heart-touching scenes of 'Padapuja' of Visweswaran couple, rendering a composition of Visweswaran, offering of 'Arasina Kumkuma' to Usha Visweswaran, besides honouring Visweswaran with the citation, shawl, fruits and a purse by the members of Raaga Rasagnya.

Prof. Visweswaran, overwhelmed by the love and respect showered on him by the disciples and their students, said that when the thoughts of the guru and the disciple integrates perfectly, the bhava of oneness blossoms and the disciple gets the ability to understand guru's teachings. This oneness gives proximity to their relations and Prof. Sheshadri is his worthy student.

S.H. Venkatesh, President of Raaga Rasagnya, Hemavathy, Treasurer, Dr. K.V. Krishna, a senior violinist and HoD, SVCMD, Dr. K. Vandana, senior vocalist and faculty, SVCMD, Tirupati and several members of the Sabha participated in the felicitation, which brought everyone a feeling of divinity in a homely atmosphere.

—Keshava Saralaya

Bharatanatyam Rangapravesha of Nidhi and Lekha held



Kumar Performing Arts Centre (KPAC), Mysuru, had organised its 38th and 39th Bharatanatyam Rangapravesha at its Kalemane Sabhaangana in Hebbal 2nd Stage on Oct. 18 and 19 respectively. Under the guidance of Karnataka Kalashree Dr. K. Kumar, his disciples and daughters, *Nruthya Visharade* ***K.M. Nidhi*** *(left)* ***and K.M. Lekha, successfully presented their performance.***

Moonlight Music at Suttur Mutt

A Mesmerising Jugalbandhi

Vidwan R. Kumaresh and Pandit Pravin Godkhindi presenting a violin-flute jugalbandhi concert at Suttur Mutt, foot of Chamundi Hill, in city on Oct. 7 as part of the monthly moonlight music programme-284. They were accompanied by Vid. Arjun Kumar on mridanga and Pt. Ravindra Yavagal on tabla.

On the evening of Oct. 7, under the calm glow of moonlight, Suttur Mutt, at the foot of Chamundi Hill in city, hosted its 284th concert as part of its ongoing Moonlight Music series. The night featured a captivating Jugalbandhi between two virtuosos: **Vid. Kumaresh** on violin and **Vid. Pravin Godkhindi** on the flute.

They were supported by **Pt. Ravindra Yavagal** on tabla and **Vid. Arjun Kumar** on mridanga, forming a powerhouse of rhythmic excellence.

A successful jugalbandhi hinges on mutual respect and musical synergy and this performance exemplified both. It was a true dialogue in melody, not a duel — thankfully, a jugalbandhi, not a jagalabandhi!

The concert opened with Raga Pooryakalyan (equivalent to Poorvikalyani in Karnatak music). Both artistes explored the raga with unhurried grace, showcasing 'samyama' — a blend of meditative focus and artistic discipline. The pure instrumental rendition, devoid of lyrics, allowed the audience to immerse deeply in the musical textures.

One of the evening's highlights was Raga Venkatkauns, a creation of Pravin Godkhindi in memory of his father. Reminiscent of Chandrakauns and Varamu, the raga offered a hauntingly beautiful canvas, which both musicians painted with masterful strokes. Their seamless interweaving of Hindustani and Karnatak styles was both refreshing and mesmerising.

A brief Ragamalika added a playful element to the performance, while the concluding Tani Avartana by Raveendra Yavagal and Arjun Kumar was nothing short of exhilarating. Their rhythmic jugalbandhi captivated the audience with intricate patterns and spontaneous exchanges.

It was, indeed, a musical night to remember, where moonlight and melody blended into a truly soulful experience.

—Dr. Rama V. Bennur

KSRTC safety audit begins

(Continued from page 1)

Chief Mechanical Engineer of the State Road Transport Department Srinivas stressed that every bus must undergo a detailed safety check and that any defects must be rectified immediately.

He also issued guidelines on identifying and addressing potential mechanical failures during the audit.

City and Rural Divisions

In the KSRTC Mysuru Rural Division, six depots operate a fleet of 753 red and blue buses, including 83 Volvo and 14 electric buses. Each depot has formed a dedicated audit team comprising a Depot Manager, one supervisor and three mechanical staff members to carry out inspections.

Mysuru city has four depots managing 554 buses. Of these, 60 new blue buses and 15 new red Ashwamedha buses were added in 2024-25, while 147 buses older than 15 years have been decommissioned this year in line with departmental norms.

To enhance emergency preparedness, buses are being equipped with fully functional emergency doors, which are now being lubricated to prevent jamming. Iron window breakers are also being installed to allow passengers to break free from closed windows in case of emergencies.

Additional safety upgrades include installing fire detection sensors and extinguishers, checking for engine oil and diesel leaks, and inspecting battery cables. Faulty cables are being replaced wherever necessary as part of the ongoing safety overhaul.

Serious safety risks

Transporting goods in passenger buses continues to be a dangerous and illegal practice under Transport Department regulations. Carrying flammable or sensitive items — such as electronic devices — can trigger fires if they explode due to heat or pressure.

In the recent Kurnool incident, more than a hundred mobile phone boxes were reportedly stored in the lower luggage compartment. When the fire broke out, the flames reached the phones, causing a chain of explosions that intensified the blaze.

While both private operators and KSRTC have separate cargo services for goods transport, many operators — particularly private ones — continue to load commercial goods in passenger buses to maximise profits.

Given the grave risks involved, it is imperative that both Government and private operators strictly prohibit the transport of goods in passenger buses. Failure to do so could lead to more tragedies like the one in Kurnool.

KSRTC staff checking the emergency hammer inside a bus to break the window in case of any emergencies.

Safety audit to be completed within four days

In line with the directives issued by the State Road Transport Department's central office, the safety audit of all buses will be completed within the next three to four days.

Following the audit, a comprehensive report — detailing the number of buses inspected and the corrective measures implemented — will be submitted to the central office.

Buses older than 15 years are being decommissioned immediately, without being operated even for a single day. This reflects the department's strict adherence to transport safety regulations.

—B. Srinivas, Divisional Controller, KSRTC Mysuru Rural Division

Teams reassigned to ensure timely completion

To ensure the safety audit progresses without delay, teams led by depot managers have been reassigned to depots other than their current postings. This step was taken to prevent overlap with their regular administrative duties, which might otherwise affect the audit's pace.

All safety audits will be completed within the timeframe set by the State Road Transport Corporation, and a detailed report will be submitted to the central office upon completion.

—H.T. Veeresh, Divisional Controller, KSRTC Mysuru City Division

EPF partial withdrawal provisions simplified

Vinit Kumar

Mysuru, Oct. 28- The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports, has approved several landmark decisions to simplify and liberalise the EPF partial withdrawal provisions.

Simplified Structure: 13 existing withdrawal provisions merged into 3 categories — Essential Needs (illness, education, marriage), Housing Needs and Special Circumstances.

Enhanced Withdrawal Limits: Members can now withdraw up to 100% of their EPF balance subject to 25% of the Contributions in the Member's account as Minimum Balance to be maintained by the member at all times. Education withdrawal limit increased up to 10 times, and marriage withdrawal up to 5 times.

Reduced Service Requirement: Minimum service period for all partial withdrawals uniformly reduced to 12 months.

Ease of Access: Zero need for any Documentation while settling partial withdrawal, 100% target is to settle partial withdrawal cases in auto mode.

Premature Final Settlement: After liberalising the partial withdrawals and to ensure sufficient balance as retirement security, the change for availing premature final settlement of EPF from the existing 2 months to 12 months, and final pension withdrawal from 2 months to 36 months.

These reforms aim to enhance liquidity, provide flexibility and improve ease of living for EPF members.

Existing Software is getting modified to effect such changes and to provide best possible service to our stakeholders, stated a press release from Vinit Kumar, Regional PF Commissioner-I, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office, Mysuru.

LPG leak: Woman succumbs to burns, husband in ICU

Shobha

Hunsur, Oct. 28 (KS)- A woman, who had sustained severe burns along with her husband following LPG leakage about six days back and admitted to a private hospital in Mysuru, has succumbed to burn injuries at the hospital while her husband is undergoing treatment in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

The deceased is Shobha (42), wife of Kittur Primary Health Centre (PHC) Senior Health Inspector Kumar, a resident of Veeranjaneya Layout in the town.

On Oct. 23, when Shobha was cooking, a fire broke out following LPG leakage resulting in fire engulfing the house and Shobha sustaining severe burns. Shobha's husband, who rushed to her help, also sustained burn injuries. Due to the intensity of the fire, the walls of the house have developed cracks.

Both were admitted to a private hospital in Mysuru where Shobha succumbed to burn injuries yesterday while Kumar is undergoing treatment in an ICU.

House burgled, valuables stolen

Mysuru, Oct. 28- Thieves have made away with gold and silver valuables worth Rs. 1 lakh, from a house at Dattagalli in the city recently.

Adarsh, along with his family members, had gone to his native village near Somwarpet in Kodagu district, for Deepavali festival on Oct. 20.

The family returned on Oct. 22, only to find the main door of the house broke open.

Upon inspecting the house, it was found that, silver weighing 350 grams, gold earring of four grams, all worth about Rs. 1 lakh, had been stolen.

w Police have registered a case in this regard and are investigating.

Woman injured as car hits road divider

Mysuru, Oct. 28 (RK&KS) - A woman escaped with minor injuries as the car she was driving reportedly hit the concrete road divider near Akashvani Circle in Yadavagiri early this morning.

It is learnt, Dhanya, a resident of Gokulam, was returning home after dropping her relatives to the Railway Station. While she was proceeding near Akashvani Circle at 6.30 am, she is said to have lost control of her Maruti Swift car and hit the road divider, resulting in her sustaining minor injuries. The front portion of the car has been badly damaged.

VV Puram Traffic Police visited the spot and cleared the damaged car from the road. No case has been registered.

Obituary

Ballachanda Pussy Madiah

Mysuru, Oct. 28 - Ballachanda Pussy Madiah (Mandepanda), wife of late B.C. Madiah and a resident of No. 262, 16th Main, 3rd Cross, Saraswathipuram, passed away this morning in city. She was 83.

She leaves behind daughters Kodendera Sowmya Medappa and Sarina Madiah, sons-in-law, grand-children and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Mukthidhama in Vijayanagar 4th Stage this afternoon, according to family sources.

WORD OF THE DAY

Acerbic

Pronunciation: uh-SER-bik (adjective)
Meaning: Something described as acerbic is sharply or bitingly critical, sarcastic, or ironic in temper, mood, or tone.
Origin: English speakers created acerbic in the 19th century by combining the adjective acerb with the suffix -ic-. Acerb had already been around for a couple centuries, but for most of that time it had been used only to describe foods with a sour taste. (Acerb is still around today, but now it's simply a less common synonym of acerbic.) Acerbic and acerb ultimately come from the Latin adjective acerbus, which can mean "harsh" or "unpleasant." Another English word that comes from acerbus is exacerbate, which means "to make more violent or severe."
Example: "Whether she's giving a sarcastic eye-roll, tossing off an acerbic zinger, or seducing with a come-hither stare, [actress Jennifer] Simard intimately understands the art of underplaying." — Christopher Wallenberg, The Boston Globe, 1 June 2025.

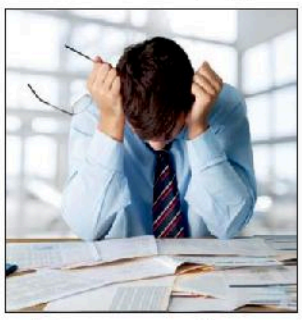
THE ODD WORD

Quartan

Occurring every fourth day.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Champagne taste on a beer budget



Meaning: The phrase 'Champagne taste on a beer budget' refers to someone who lives above her means and likes expensive things she can't possibly afford.
Origin: Towards the end of the 19th century, champagne was associated with prestige, luxury and a symbol of status and class. Since its invention beer is the most popular alcoholic beverage, representing a more affordable and common lifestyle. The phrase 'Champagne taste on a beer budget' combines the two, meaning luxury on limited income. It was first recorded in a news item by Howard Fielding and Frederick R.Barton 'The Victim of his Clothes'. Published in the July edition of The Globe-Republican in 1890: "School mastering I found, did not pay for a man who had acquired champagne taste on a beer budget..."
Example: Laura – "I can't believe Kimberly spent her entire salary on her red Jimmy Choo's." Dana – "That doesn't surprise me at all, she has a champagne taste on a beer budget."

QUOTE BOX

A promise must never be broken. **—Alexander Hamilton**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

LILATEFE

Answer: Late in life.

SUDOKU

	4		7			3	5	
	9	8						
					5	1		
9	1	5	4					
	6			7			1	
					1	9	2	8
		6	3					
						2	4	
	5	7			2		3	

Answer to previous puzzle

4	9	7	1	8	6	5	2	3
2	5	6	3	4	9	8	7	1
1	8	3	5	2	7	4	6	9
6	4	5	2	7	3	9	1	8
8	3	1	9	6	5	7	4	2
7	2	9	4	1	8	3	5	6
5	1	8	6	3	4	2	9	7
3	6	4	7	9	2	1	8	5
9	7	2	8	5	1	6	3	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

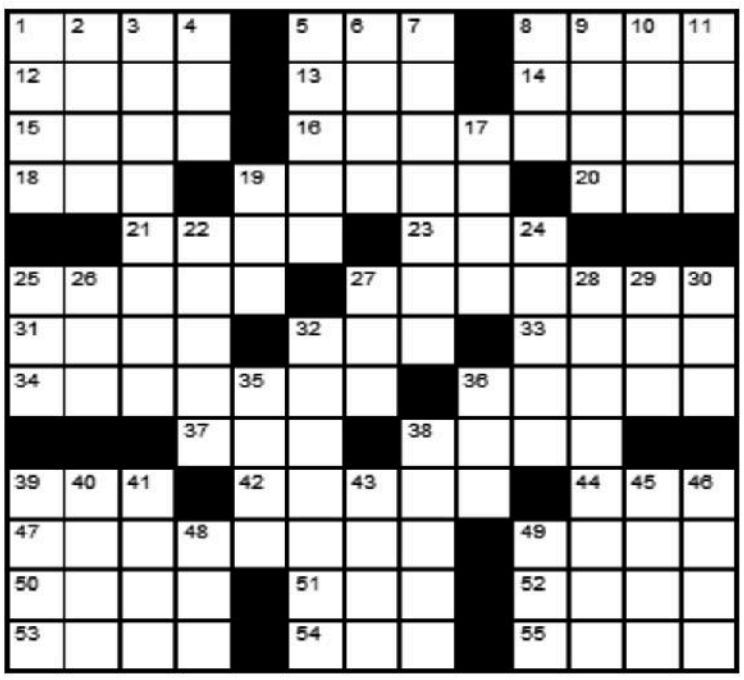
1 Canadian province - "Lata" anagram?
5 ___ and rice : our staple diet?
8 Person from Phuket
12 Light melodies
13 Constellation next to Scorpius
14 Keep in hand
15 Beams of light
16 Highly instinctive
18 Period of years
19 Breadth
20 Famous French marshal
21 Very happy
23 Bond creator Fleming
25 Rome is its capital
27 Very angry
31 Diva's song
32 Ring Laser Gyro
33 One who performs or acts
34 Letters from admirers (3,4)
36 Alas
37 Smartphone program
38 Festive occasion
39 Integrated Modular Avionics
42 Watery part of blood
44 By way of
47 Belonging to a country
49 2024 Olympics bronze medallist ___ Bhaker
50 Swamp critter
51 "Ate" anagram for a Greek letter?
52 Author Hubbard (1,3)
53 Ballyhoo
54 ___ in : begin eating or working vigorously?
55 "Is not" in a slang form - "anti" anagram

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

D	R	A	B		D	U	E		P	S	S	T
O	M	N	I		E	M	U		R	E	A	R
M	U	S	C	U	L	A	R		A	M	L	A
			E	P	I		O	D	D	I	T	Y
O	K	A	P	I		S	P	O	O	F		
D	I	P	S		V	I	E	W		I	F	S
A	L	P		S	A	T	A	N		N	I	P
S	L	R		I	R	A	N		Y	A	L	E
		E	D	G	A	R		R	I	L	E	D
J	O	H	A	N	N		T	I	E			
A	N	E	T		A	B	S	O	L	U	T	E
D	A	N	E		S	E	A		D	R	A	G
E	N	D	S		I	E	R		S	N	U	G

DOWN

1 Swiss river - change of "area"?
2 Teller of falsehoods
3 Re-attempt (3,5)
4 Donkey
5 Pink Floyd's ___ Gilmour
6 Hot and dry
7 Enduring
8 Definite article
9 With which a bullock may gore one?
10 Wings or winglike parts
11 Indolently
17 Scorch
19 Path
22 Peruvian quadruped
24 2022 French Open Champion
25 Ind. Air Force
26 Singing syllable
27 Old measurement of length
28 One of India's major rivers
29 Long and slippery fish
30 Not wet
32 Matured - "end pier" anagram?
35 Dog breed: Lhasa ____
36 Christian name of one representing American Government?
38 Russian prison camp
39 Small measure
40 The girl with the little lamb?
41 Surmounting
43 Bollywood's ___ Agnihotri
45 Privy to (2,2)
46 ____ Sally :a game played at fairs, etc.?
48 Solid water
49 Assemblyman, in short



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

JRU XQTTUWUIFU OUJSUUI B HEFFUHHTEN KUWHPI

BIX PJRUWH QH IPJ B NBFM PT HJWUIYJR, IPJ B NBFM

PT MIPSNUXYU, OEJ WBJRUW QI B NBFM PT SQNN.

TODAY'S CLUE: H EQUALS S

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Telling the future by looking at the past assumes that conditions remain constant. This is like driving a car by looking in the rearview mirror.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Sangam Theatre **Ph: 2520494**
Green (K) - 2 Shows *Dilmaar (K)* - 2 Shows

Woodlands Theatre **Ph: 2422871**
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K) - 4 Shows

Gayathri Theatre **Ph: 2443568**
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K) - 4 Shows

Mahadeshwara Theatre **Mob: 99008-20093**
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K) - 4 Shows

Prabha Theatre **Mob: 98454-14691**
Bilichukki Hallihakki (K) - 4 Shows

Rajkamal Theatre **Ph: 2423554**
Bison Kaalamaadan (Ta) - 4 Shows

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Dude (Ta) - 4 Shows

Lido Theatre **Ph: 2420885**
Thamma (H) - 3 Shows

Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
Thamma (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422 4241800

Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	(S-1)	9.40 am, 1 pm, 7.10 pm
	(S-2)	10.05 am
	(S-3)	4.05 pm
	(S-4)	12.20 pm, 3.40 pm
		7.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Dude (Ta)	(S-1)	4.20 pm
Nellikkampoyil Night Riders (Ma)	(S-1)	10.30 pm
Green (K)	(S-2)	1.40 pm
Thamma (H)	(S-2)	4.10 pm, 7.10 pm, 10.15 pm
Regretting You (E)	(S-3)	10.40 am, 7.30 pm
Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat (H)	(S-3)	1.10 pm, 10 pm
Yaarigu Helbedi (K)	(S-4)	9.50 am

MOVIES AT MYC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS Ph: 2973519

Yaarigu Helbedi (K)	(S-1)	11.15 am
Green (K)	(S-1)	2.20 pm
Bili Chukki Halli Hakki (K)	(S-1)	4.35 pm
Thamma (H)	(S-1)	7.15 pm
	(S-4)	1 pm, 3.55 pm, 9.30 pm
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	(S-2)	1 pm, 4.20 pm, 7.45 pm
	(S-3)	10.45 am, 2.30 pm
		6.15 pm, 9.30 pm
Dude (H)	(S-4)	6.50 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (H)	: 8.40 am, 12.05 pm, 3.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	: 9.05 am, 9.30 am, 11.30 am, 12.15 pm, 2.55 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.20 pm, 7.05 pm, 9.45 pm, 10.30 pm
Thamma (H)	: 10.00 am, 1.05 pm, 4.10 pm, 7.15 pm, 10.20 pm
Dude (Ta)	: 10.05 am, 7.15 pm
Bison Kaalamaadan (Ta)	: 12.45 pm
Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat (H)	: 12.55 pm, 7.20 pm
Regretting You (E)	: 3.55 pm, 10.10 pm
K-Ramp (Te)	: 4.10 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Thamma (H)	: 9.25 am, 12.30 pm, 3.35 pm, 6.30 pm, 9.45 pm
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	: 10.50 am, 11.45 am, 12.15 pm, 2.15 pm, 3.10 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.35 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.00 pm, 10.30 pm
Dude (Ta)	: 6.20 pm
Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat (H)	: 9.15 pm

EVENTS TODAY (OCT. 28)

Sri Male Mahadeshwara Bhakta Mandali: Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Karthika Masa Puja Mahotsava, Kamsale Nagaraju and Troupe to present Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Devotional Songs and Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Harikathe, Male Mahadeshwara Temple, Janathanagar, Thonachikoppal, **6 pm.**

Sadhana Mandira: Special Training Sessions - Learn & Perform, Simple and Diligent, Saraswati Puja by Swami Hamsananda, Kannada Sahitya Parishat premises, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **6 pm to 6.45 pm;** Sri Saptamatruka Devasthanam, 7th Main Road, Vijayanagar 3rd Stage, **7 pm to 7.45 pm.**

Institution of Engineers-India (IEI), Mysuru Local Centre: Technical Talk on 'The Reality of Reversal of Diabetes and Remission of Diabetes' by Dr. V. Lakshminarayan, IEI Chairman Dr. R. Deepu presides, IEI premises, JLB Road, **6 pm.**

Chinmaya Mission, Mysuru: Gita Jnana Yajna, Swami Gahanananda delivers discourse on 'Karma Yoga of Bhagavad Gita - 3rd Chapter,' Shivananda Jnanalaya, Lakshmipuram, **6.30 pm to 8 pm.**

Rangabhoomi Trust, Kodagu: Staging of play 'Nijamahatma Babasaheba,' written by Addanda Cariappa, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (OCT. 29)

Inchara Kalakshetra: Handmade (Paper Pulp) Doll Show by K.S. Raghavendra — Over 500 dolls of Paper Pulp depicting Sri Srinivasa Kalyana, Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mahime and Dashavataradalli Sri Krishna Bala Leele — Inchara Kalakshetra, #149/150, 4th Cross, 3rd Main, Mahadeshwaranagar, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, **10 am to 1 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm.** [Mob: 98867-64542]

Oriental Research Institute (ORI), University of Mysore (UoM): 134th Foundation Day celebrations, seminar on 'Uttare Ramacharite Bhavabhutirvishishyate,' ORI Director Dr. D.P. Madhusudhanacharya delivers welcome address, UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath presides, MLC K. Vivekananda chief guest, Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage Commissioner A. Devaraju guest of honour, retd. ORI Deputy Director Vid. Dr. T.V. Satyanarayana and retd. ORI senior scholar Dr. H.V. Nagaraja Rao special invitees, ORI Research Assistant Dr. A. Krishna Nagasampige comperes, Seminar Hall, Vijnana Bhavan, Manasagangothri, **10.30 am.**

Sri Nataraja Higher Primary School (English Medium): Science Exhibition 2025-26, Sarada Vilas College Principal Dr. M. Devika inaugurates, Sri Nataraja Pratishtana Special Officer Prof. S. Shivarajappa chief guest, Sri Nataraja Auditorium, Sri Hosmutt, **11 am.**

KSOU Competitive Exams Coaching Centre: Inauguration of 50-day coaching classes for aspirants appearing for the competitive exams for appointment to Banking and Central Government posts; Former Karnataka DG&IGP Shankar Bidari inaugurates, Mysuru DCP R.N. Bindu Mani chief guest, KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse presides, Cauvery auditorium, Muktagangothri campus, along Hunsur Road, **11.30 am.**

Gemini Circus: 3 shows at Horse Park Grounds, near Karanji Lake, **1 pm, 4 pm and 7 pm.**

Karnataka Exhibition Authority (KEA): Dasara Exhibition, Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **3 pm to 10 pm.**

Sadhana Mandira: Special Training Sessions - Learn & Perform, Simple and Diligent, Saraswati Puja by Swami Hamsananda, Kannada Sahitya Parishat premises, Vijayanagar 1st Stage, **6 pm to 6.45 pm;** Sri Saptamatruka Devasthanam, 7th Main Road, Vijayanagar 3rd Stage, **7 pm to 7.45 pm.**

Sri Male Mahadeshwara Bhakta Mandali: Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Karthika Masa Puja Mahotsava, Devotional Songs by Dialogue Bheerappa of Junior Rajkumar-fame and Somashekar troupe, cultural programmes, Male Mahadeshwara Temple, Janathanagar, Thonachikoppal, **6 pm.**

BEML SC/ST Employees Welfare Association, Mysuru: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's 134th Birthday Celebrations, Urilingapeddi Mutt Seer Sri Jnanaprakash Swamiji inaugurates, BEML Director (Finance) Anil Jerath, Director (HR) Debi Prasad Satpathy and Director (Mining & Construction Business) Sanjay Som guests of honour, BEML CGM & Chief Liaison Officer for SC/STs Channappa Dyamappa Madar chief guest, BEML CGM & Chief of Mysore Complex Brig. Vivek Kohar presides, Lalitha Kala Ranga Mandira, Manasagangothri, University of Mysore, **6 pm.**

Chinmaya Mission, Mysuru: Gita Jnana Yajna, Swami Gahanananda delivers discourse on 'Karma Yoga of Bhagavad Gita - 3rd Chapter,' Shivananda Jnanalaya, Lakshmipuram, **6.30 pm to 8 pm.**

Rangabhoomi Trust, Kodagu: Staging of play 'Nijamahatma Babasaheba,' written by Addanda Cariappa, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**

JCAC JAGANNATHA CENTER FOR ART AND CULTURE — www.jcacmysuru.com — Vijayanagar 1st Stage, Mysuru. Ph: 70220 33303 — ಕಲಾ ಸಪ್ತಮಿ Kala SAPTAMI

Oct. 29: 'Kala Saptami,' weekly cultural programme, Light Classical Music by **Nithin Rajaram Shastry** (vocal), Prabhu Rao (harmonium), Bhimashankar Bidanoor (tabla), H.P. Sujayeendra Rao (pakhawaj), N. Thilak Shyam Shastry (taala), Jagannatha Centre for Art and Culture (JCAC), Vijayanagar, **6 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	: 9.50 am, 12.15 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.35 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.00 pm, 10.30 pm
Thamma (H)	: 9.55 am, 1.00 pm, 4.05 pm, 7.10 pm, 10.15 pm,
Dude (Ta)	: 1.10 pm
Green (K)	: 4.05 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Thamma (H)	: 10.00 am, 4.00 pm, 7.50 pm, 10.20 pm,
Newton's 3rd Law (K)	: 10.45 am
Kantara: A Legend Chapter-1 (K)	: 11.30 am, 12.15 pm, 2.55 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.20 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat (H)	: 1.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Bili Chukki Halli Hakki (K)	: 1.35 pm
Dilmaar (K)	: 4.30 pm
Dude (Ta)	: 7.25 pm
Nellikkampoyil Night Riders (Ma)	: 9.45 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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IN LOVING MEMORY

Dr. B. V. Rajagopal
B.Sc., M.D., FICP, FICC, FIAMS
Attained the Divine Realm at the age of 88. He is lovingly remembered by his children Kalpana, Sandeep, Dilip and Laxmi with their families and his five grandchildren, and reunited with his beloved Late wife, Smt. Lalitha Rajagopal.

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28th October 2024
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Deeply Mourned by :
Vasanth Kumar Mysoremath, Sons, Daughters-in-law, Grand children & Great grand children, Relatives & Friends,Tilak Nagar, Mysuru

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